



OFFICE OF  
THE CHAIRMAN

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION  
WASHINGTON

April 7, 2020

The Honorable Susan Brooks  
U.S. House of Representatives  
2211 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Congresswoman Brooks:

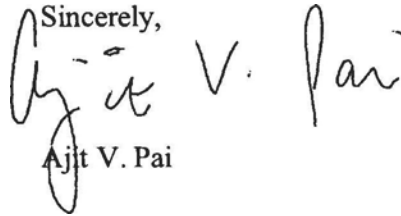
Thank you for your letter concerning the Commission's rulemaking proceeding regarding the 6 GHz band. I agree with you that adequate midband spectrum is crucial for 5G, and I very appreciate you sharing your perspective that some portion of the 6 GHz band could be reserved for licensed use. As you know, the United States is already on track to make a substantial amount of licensed midband spectrum available for 5G with our work on the 2.5 GHz band, the 3.1-3.55 GHz band, the 3.5 GHz band, the 3.7 GHz band, and the 4.9 GHz band (to name a few). But we will need wide swaths of new spectrum for unlicensed use to complement these licensed spectrum assets and allow 5G mobile devices to offload traffic onto local wired networks.

Accordingly, I have circulated a draft Report and Order for consideration at the Commission's April 23, 2020 Open Meeting that would make 1,200 megahertz of spectrum available for unlicensed use in this band—effectively increasing the amount of spectrum available for Wi-Fi by nearly a factor of five. These rules would enhance nationwide access for a broad range of essential and life-saving communications activities—including telehealth, remote learning, and telework. Even before the COVID-19 pandemic, the need for additional unlicensed spectrum was clear and well documented—and now we see in stark relief the essential need for this type of connectivity.

The Commission's technical experts in our Office of Engineering and Technology have thoroughly reviewed the substantial record of this proceeding. The proposed rules represent the results of their comprehensive analysis. I am confident that we can move ahead expeditiously to adopt their recommendation authorizing two different types of unlicensed operations: standard-power in 850-megahertz of the band and indoor low-power operations over the full 1,200-megahertz available in the 6 GHz band. I am likewise convinced that the proposed automated frequency coordination system will prevent standard power access points from operating where they could cause interference to incumbent services.

The Commission will also consider a Further Notice of Proposed Rulemaking to permit very low-power devices to operate across the 6 GHz band to support high data rate applications including high-performance, wearable, augmented-reality and virtual-reality devices. As always, interested parties would be permitted to submit comments and their own studies and analyses in this proceeding for evaluation by our engineering staff.

Thank you for your interest. Please let me know if I can be of any further assistance.

Sincerely,  
  
Ajit V. Pai



FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION  
WASHINGTON

OFFICE OF  
THE CHAIRMAN

April 7, 2020

The Honorable Billy Long  
U.S. House of Representatives  
2454 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Congressman Long:

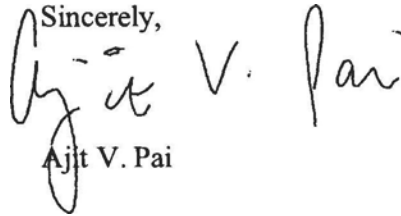
Thank you for your letter concerning the Commission's rulemaking proceeding regarding the 6 GHz band. I agree with you that adequate midband spectrum is crucial for 5G, and I very appreciate you sharing your perspective that some portion of the 6 GHz band could be reserved for licensed use. As you know, the United States is already on track to make a substantial amount of licensed midband spectrum available for 5G with our work on the 2.5 GHz band, the 3.1-3.55 GHz band, the 3.5 GHz band, the 3.7 GHz band, and the 4.9 GHz band (to name a few). But we will need wide swaths of new spectrum for unlicensed use to complement these licensed spectrum assets and allow 5G mobile devices to offload traffic onto local wired networks.

Accordingly, I have circulated a draft Report and Order for consideration at the Commission's April 23, 2020 Open Meeting that would make 1,200 megahertz of spectrum available for unlicensed use in this band—effectively increasing the amount of spectrum available for Wi-Fi by nearly a factor of five. These rules would enhance nationwide access for a broad range of essential and life-saving communications activities—including telehealth, remote learning, and telework. Even before the COVID-19 pandemic, the need for additional unlicensed spectrum was clear and well documented—and now we see in stark relief the essential need for this type of connectivity.

The Commission's technical experts in our Office of Engineering and Technology have thoroughly reviewed the substantial record of this proceeding. The proposed rules represent the results of their comprehensive analysis. I am confident that we can move ahead expeditiously to adopt their recommendation authorizing two different types of unlicensed operations: standard-power in 850-megahertz of the band and indoor low-power operations over the full 1,200-megahertz available in the 6 GHz band. I am likewise convinced that the proposed automated frequency coordination system will prevent standard power access points from operating where they could cause interference to incumbent services.

The Commission will also consider a Further Notice of Proposed Rulemaking to permit very low-power devices to operate across the 6 GHz band to support high data rate applications including high-performance, wearable, augmented-reality and virtual-reality devices. As always, interested parties would be permitted to submit comments and their own studies and analyses in this proceeding for evaluation by our engineering staff.

Thank you for your interest. Please let me know if I can be of any further assistance.

Sincerely,  
  
Ajit V. Pai